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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/524,179	02/10/2005	Wanda Susanne Kruijt	NL 020763	2823

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PHILIPS INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY & STANDARDS
P.O. BOX 3001
BRIARCLIFF MANOR, NY 10510

EXAMINER

ZETTL, MARY E

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2875

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	02/26/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/524,179

Applicant(s)

Kruijt & Stommels

Examiner

Mary Zettl

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 28 November 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6,9-16,19 and 21 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 7,8,17 and 18 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 10 February 2007 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

1. Claims 1-4, 6, 10-14, 16, and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Hirashiro (JP 2001-283624).

Regarding claims 1, 2, 10-12, and 21 Hirashiro et al. disclose a backlight device (Drawing 11) for a liquid crystal display (paragraph 31) comprising several tubular lamps (52) disposed within a housing, whereby each lamp comprises a part that can be cooled, the part extends through the wall of the housing into a channel through which air can flow (paragraphs 7,8, and 30).

Regarding claims 3, 4, 13, 14 Hirashiro et al. disclose a fan (56) that extracts air from the channel, or blows air into the channel at a location between two parts of the lamp (Drawing 11).

Regarding claims 6 and 16, Hirashiro et al. further disclose the channel comprising a wall which is provided with a recess (55) between two parts of the lamp so as to allow air to pass therethrough.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 5, 9, 15, and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hirashiro et al. (JP 2001-283624).

Regarding claims 5 and 15, Hirashiro et al. teach a sensor (7; paragraph 28). Hirashiro et al. further note that the ends of the tubes become hot (paragraph 27). However, Hirashiro et al. do not disclose expressly which part of the lamp the sensor is measuring. At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to have utilized the sensor taught by Hirashiro et al. to measure the temperature of the part of the lamp that extends into the channel (i.e. the part of the lamp producing the most heat) since device overheating problems would originate in this region.

Regarding claims 9 and 19, Hirashiro et al. further teach a diffuser plate (paragraph 12). Hirashiro et al. do not disclose expressly the diffuser abutting against the housing in a dust-tight manner. Yamamoto et al. teach a surface light source device including a diffuser (2) which abuts against components of the housing in a dust-tight manner (col. 3, lines 28-34). At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to have modified the invention of Hirashiro et al. such that the diffuser abutted against the housing in a dust-tight manner as taught by

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Yamamoto et al. One would have been motivated to have made this modification in order to ensure that the light output was not diminished by accumulation of dust on the tubes.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 7, 8, 17, and 18 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

Regarding claims 7 and 17, prior fails to teach or make obvious a backlight device including several lamps comprising a part that extends through the wall of a housing into a channel through which air can flow and wherein the housing forms a dust-proof space.

Conclusion

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mary Zettl whose telephone number is (571) 272-6007. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8am-4:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Renee Luebke can be reached on (571) 272-2009. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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MZ


RENEE LUEBKE
PRIMARY EXAMINER